

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 030685
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /015 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:RARELLANO,BWL
APPROVED BY ARA:RARELLANO
ARA:SSHELTON

-----055874 041837Z /43

P 041824Z PEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030685

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MX, GT

SUBJECT: F-5'S FOR MEXICO

REF: STATE 018347

FOLLOWING IS A REPEAT OF MEXICO 02043:

"1. IN REFTTEL, DEPARTMENT REQUESTED COMMENTS REGARDING GOM REQUEST TO PURCHASE 24 F-5E'S AND 2 F-5F'S. CHIEF OF MEXICAN AIR FORCE HAS OFFICIALLY DENIED THAT HIS COUNTRY HAS EVEN REQUESTED INFORMATION REGARDING FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, BUT ONLY EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT.

"2. THIS GOM STATEMENT, FIRMLY ON THE RECORD, MAKES IT EASIER FOR USG TO MAKE DECISION THAT I PERSONALLY RECOMMEND: THAT WE ADOPT POLICY OF NOT SELLING F-5 AIRCRAFT TO MEXICO, AND THAT WE HAVE SAME POLICY TOWARD GUATEMALA--THE TWO POLICIES SHOULD GO HAND IN HAND. IF ASKED FOR AN EXPLANATION, WHICH WE MAY NOT
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HAVE TO MAKE BECAUSE OF MEXICAN DENIAL MENTIONED ABOVE, WE SHOULD BASE OUR STATEMENT ON THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY REGARDING CONVENTIONAL ARMS SALES WORLDWIDE AND WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO LATIN AMERICA. IF

AND WHEN THE MEXICAN-GUATEMALAN TENSION OVER

BELIZE HAS AMELIORATED, I WOULD SUGGEST REOPENING CONVERSATIONS WITH MEXICO REGARDING MODERNIZATION OF ITS AIR ARM.

"3. WHILE GOM MAY SEEK TO PURCHASE THE AIRCRAFT ELSEWHERE, MY HOPE WOULD BE THAT GOM MIGHT RE-ASSESS, IN LIGHT OF US DECISION, ITS NEED FOR SUCH AIRCRAFT AND THE WISDOM OF PUTTING ITS RESOURCES TO THIS USE. ANY SUCH STATEMENT, OR EVEN A HINT OF IT, WOULD AROUSE THE GOM TO CHAMPION ITS RIGHT AS A SOVEREIGN NATION TO DEFEND ITSELF, AND NO SUCH STATEMENT SHOULD BE PART OF OUR EXPLANATION. LUCEY."

NOTE FOR GUATEMALA: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON THE THRUST OF PARAGRAPH 2 IN ABOVE MEXICO CABLE. VANCE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** ONLY

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE030685
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RARELLANO,BWL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780054-0409
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802116/aaaafsqrq.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 4ccb21cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 STATE 18347
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3465759
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 970902
Subject: F-5'S FOR MEXICO
TAGS: MASS, GT, MX
To: GUATEMALA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4ccb21cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014